

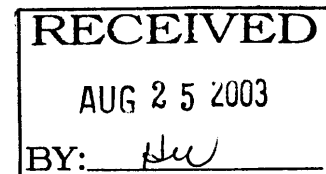
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF EL DORADO

2850 Fairlane Court, Bldg. `C`
Placerville, California 95667-5699

Reply To: Stephen P. Cascioppo, Court Executive Officer
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July 25, 2003



Hon. Jerald Lasarow
Supervising Grand Jury Judge
El Dorado County Superior Court
1354 Johnson Boulevard
S. Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

Dear Judge Lasarow:

Enclosed you will find my response to the 2002/2003 Grand Jury Report.

Sincerely,

Steph P. Cascioppo
Court Executive Officer

Enclosure

Cc: Hon. Suzanne N. Kingsbury

The Court Executive Officer responds to the Final Report of the 2002-2003 El Dorado County Grand Jury as follows:

Audit and Finance Committee

Superior Court - Exhibit Room
495 Main Street, Placerville

Findings:

The non-physical Exhibit Room appears to lack adequate space and shelving. Exhibits appear to be in disorder and are placed on the floor in this small room.

Response: Respondent agrees with the finding.

F2. Written procedures are not being followed for discarding closed-case exhibits. About 75% of exhibits in the storage area are beyond the retention period.

Response: Respondent agrees with the finding.

F3. There is no person designated to manage the exhibit process.

Response: The respondent disagrees partially with the finding. The Court Operations Supervisor is designated to manage the exhibit process. However, specific staff are currently not assigned to work on a regular basis in discarding closed-case exhibits due to staffing shortages.

F4. No sprinkler system or fire extinguishers could be found in or near the Exhibit Room.

Response: The respondent disagrees partially with the finding. There is a fire hose outside the basement file room that is designated for use in the file room and exhibit room and meets fire code requirements.

Recommendations:

R1. The Exhibit Room should have adequate shelving.

Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. The Court anticipates working with the County to implement the recommendation.

R2. All exhibits should be inventoried and established procedures should be followed.

Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. The Court will review the findings and work with staff to implement the recommendation. Anticipate full implementation within six months.

R3. A person should be designated to manage the exhibit process.

Response: The recommendation has been implemented. The Court Operations Supervisor is designated to manage the exhibit process. The Court will work with staff to implement the recommendation.

R4. A fire extinguisher should be installed in or near the Exhibit Room.

Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. The Court is currently working with County General Services for installation of a fire extinguisher in or near the Exhibit Room.

Public Buildings & Property Committee

Update of Pat Riley Family Court (Building 180)

Formerly the Logan Building

768 Pleasant Valley Road, Diamond Springs

Findings:

F4. In November 2001 the Board of Supervisors approved use of The Building for Superior Court Family Law; however, no actual plans have been implemented.

Response: The respondent disagrees wholly with the finding. The Superior Court has been working with the County General Services Department, and their consultants, and has been in routine communications with County officials regarding the Pat Riley Family Court since November 2001. The Court has been included in the selection of consultants, has reviewed their feasibility analysis and has provided input on the design. A plan design has been drafted by the County's consultant.

Recommendations:

R1. In light of the countywide office space need, the Board of Supervisors should reconsider their options and move forward expeditiously.

Response: The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted. By moving the Court's Family Law function along with Court Administration to the Riley Court facility, the County does address its need for additional office space. A number of offices will be vacated in Building C when Court Administration moves to the Family Law Center.

Superior Court - Building 321

3221 Cameron Park Dr., Cameron Park

Findings:

F1. The prisoners' entrance door is rusting.

Response: The respondent agrees with the finding.

F2. The prisoners' entrance wooden doorframe is deteriorating.

Response: The respondent agrees with the finding.

F3. The downspouts at rear of the building are not connected to the drainage field pipes. **Response:** The respondent agrees with the finding.

F4. The rain gutters are full of leaves and pine needles

Response: The respondent agrees with the finding.

- F5. The HVAC vents/registers are dirty. **Response:** The respondent agrees with the finding.
- F6. The courtroom ceiling tiles are water stained. **Response:** The respondent agrees with the finding.
- F7. The courtroom and office area walls have cracks. **Response:** The respondent agrees with the finding.
- F8. The drinking fountain fascia plate is improperly attached. **Response:** The respondent agrees with the finding.

Recommendations:

- R1. The prisoners' entrance door should be repaired and painted.
Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. The Court anticipates working with the County to implement the recommendations. The Court does not have the ability to unilaterally make repairs or structural changes to the building, as the County is currently responsible for maintenance of court facilities. Therefore we must work cooperatively to accommodate the recommendations of the Grand Jury.
- R2. The prisoners' entrance doorframe should be repaired.
Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. The Court anticipates working with the County to implement the recommendations. The Court does not have the ability to unilaterally make repairs or structural changes to the building, as the County is currently responsible for maintenance of Court facilities. Therefore we must work cooperatively to accommodate the recommendations of the Grand Jury.
- R3. The downspouts at rear of the building should be reconnected to the drainage field pipes.
Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. The Court anticipates working with the County to implement the recommendations. The Court does not have the ability to unilaterally make repairs or structural changes to the building, as the County is currently responsible for maintenance of court facilities. Therefore we must work cooperatively to accommodate the recommendations of the Grand Jury.
- R4. The rain gutters should be cleaned.
Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. The Court anticipates working with the County to implement the recommendations. The Court does not have the ability to unilaterally make repairs or structural changes to the building, as the County is currently responsible for maintenance of court facilities. Therefore we must work cooperatively to accommodate the recommendations of the Grand Jury.

- R5. The HVAC vents/registers should be periodically cleaned.
Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. The Court anticipates working with the County to implement the recommendations. The Court does not have the ability to unilaterally make repairs or structural changes to the building, as the County is currently responsible for maintenance of court facilities. Therefore we must work cooperatively to accommodate the recommendations of the Grand Jury.
- R6. The source of the water staining the ceiling tiles of the courtroom should be investigated and repairs should be made.
Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. The Court anticipates working with the County to implement the recommendations. The Court does not have the ability to unilaterally make repairs or structural changes to the building, as the County is currently responsible for maintenance of court facilities. Therefore we must work cooperatively to accommodate the recommendations of the Grand Jury.
- R7. The cracks in the courtroom and office area walls should be repaired.
Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. The Court anticipates working with the County to implement the recommendations. The Court does not have the ability to unilaterally make repairs or structural changes to the building, as the County is currently responsible for maintenance of court facilities. Therefore we must work cooperatively to accommodate the recommendations of the Grand Jury.
- R8. The drinking fountain fascia plate should be properly reattached.
Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. The Court anticipates working with the County to implement the recommendations. The Court does not have the ability to unilaterally make repairs or structural changes to the building, as the County is currently responsible for maintenance of court facilities. Therefore we must work cooperatively to accommodate the recommendations of the Grand Jury.

**Superior Court - Building 220
495 Main Street, Placerville**

Findings:

- F1. The roofline corbel brackets and tiles are loose, missing, and/or in poor repair.
Response: The respondent agrees with the finding.
- F2. Valuable parking space has been lost, due to the danger of falling corbel brackets and tiles. **Response:** The respondent agrees with the finding.
- F3. The parking lot is inadequate. **Response:** The respondent agrees with the finding.

- F4. Mold and mildew are growing on the shaded exterior side of the building walls and windows. **Response:** The respondent agrees with the finding.
- F5. The door and window frames on the exterior shaded side of the building are rusting. **Response:** The respondent agrees with the finding.
- F6. The fire escape metal structure is rusting and the landings are dirty. **Response:** The respondent agrees with the finding.
- F7. The exterior plaster area around basement windows is deteriorating. **Response:** The respondent agrees with the finding.
- F8. Some exterior wall tiles are damaged. **Response:** The respondent agrees with the finding.
- F9. The awning over the rear door entry is damaged. **Response:** The respondent agrees with the finding.
- F10. The handicap sign on the front wall near the sidewalk is bent outward and is a potential liability. **Response:** The respondent agrees with the finding.
- F11. The security checkpoint is inadequate room for heavy traffic situations. **Response:** The respondent agrees with the finding.
- F12. The space in the three lobbies is inadequate for current use. **Response:** The respondent agrees with the finding.
- F13. The office areas are extremely cramped and lack storage space. **Response:** The respondent agrees with the finding.
- F14. No fire protection sprinkler systems or smoke detectors exist throughout the building. **Response:** The respondent agrees with the finding.
- F15. Some fire extinguisher locations are not clearly marked. **Response:** The respondent agrees with the finding.
- F16. No fire drills are held. **Response:** The respondent agrees with the finding.
- F17. The light diffusers on some lighting fixtures are sagging and ill fitted. In addition, one diffuser is missing in the CASA children's room. **Response:** The respondent agrees with the finding.
- F18. Air circulation is inconsistent and makeshift throughout the building. **Response:** The respondent agrees with the finding.
- F19. Several employees are concerned about the perceived unhealthy working environment in the building. **Response:** The respondent agrees with the finding.

- F20. Employees are concerned that the restroom configuration results in vandalism by the public and inconvenient for them. **Response:** The respondent agrees with the finding.

Recommendations:

Roofline corbel brackets and tiles should be replaced or repaired.

Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. The Court anticipates working with the County to assist them in implementing the recommendations. The Court does not have the ability to unilaterally make repairs or structural changes to the building, as the County is currently responsible for maintenance of court facilities. Therefore we must work cooperatively to accommodate the recommendations of the Grand Jury.

- R2. Adequate parking should be provided. **Response:** The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. The Court anticipates working with the County to assist them in implementing the recommendations.
- R3. Mold and mildew should be removed from the exterior building walls and windows. **Response:** The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. The Court anticipates working with the County to assist them in implementing the recommendations. The Court does not have the ability to unilaterally make repairs or structural changes to the building, as the County is currently responsible for maintenance of court facilities. Therefore we must work cooperatively to accommodate the recommendations of the Grand Jury.
- R4. Rusted exterior door and window frames should be properly repaired and maintained. **Response:** The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. The Court anticipates working with the County to assist them in implementing the recommendations. The Court does not have the ability to unilaterally make repairs or structural changes to the building, as the County is currently responsible for maintenance of court facilities. Therefore we must work cooperatively to accommodate the recommendations of the Grand Jury.
- R5. Rusted fire escape metal structures should be properly repaired and maintained. **Response:** The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. The Court anticipates working with the County to assist them in implementing the recommendations. The Court does not have the ability to unilaterally make repairs or structural changes to the building, as the County is currently responsible for maintenance of court facilities. Therefore we must work cooperatively to accommodate the recommendations of the Grand Jury.

- R6. The exterior plaster area around windows should be properly repaired. **Response:** The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. The Court anticipates working with the County to assist them in implementing the recommendations. The Court does not have the ability to unilaterally make repairs or structural changes to the building, as the County is currently responsible for maintenance of court facilities. Therefore we must work cooperatively to accommodate the recommendations of the Grand Jury.
- R7. Damaged exterior tiles should be replaced. **Response:** The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. The Court anticipates working with the County to assist them in implementing the recommendations. The Court does not have the ability to unilaterally make repairs or structural changes to the building, as the County is currently responsible for maintenance of court facilities. Therefore we must work cooperatively to accommodate the recommendations of the Grand Jury.
- R8. The rear door awning should be repaired. **Response:** The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. The Court anticipates working with the County to assist them in implementing the recommendations. The Court does not have the ability to unilaterally make repairs or structural changes to the building, as the County is currently responsible for maintenance of court facilities. Therefore we must work cooperatively to accommodate the recommendations of the Grand Jury.
- R9. The bent handicap sign on the front wall near the sidewalk should be replaced. **Response:** The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. The Court anticipates working with the County to assist them in implementing the recommendations. The Court does not have the ability to unilaterally make repairs or structural changes to the building, as the County is currently responsible for maintenance of court facilities. Therefore we must work cooperatively to accommodate the recommendations of the Grand Jury.
- R10. Fire extinguisher locations should be clearly marked. **Response:** The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. The Court anticipates working with the County to assist them in implementing the recommendations.
- R11. Fire drills should be periodically conducted. **Response:** The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. The Court has brought this to the attention of the County Risk Management department in the past. The Court had previously been a County department and currently contracts with Risk Management for Safety and Loss Prevention services. No fire drill had been conducted. The Court anticipates working with County Risk Management to implement the recommendation.

R12. The lighting fixture diffusers should be properly installed and/or replaced as necessary. **Response:** The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. The Court anticipates working with the County to assist them in implementing the recommendations. The Court does not have the ability to unilaterally make repairs or structural changes to the building, as the County is currently responsible for maintenance of court facilities. Therefore we must work cooperatively to accommodate the recommendations of the Grand Jury.

R14. When juvenile cases are on calendar, restrooms should be monitored. **Response:** The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. The Court contracts with the Sheriff Department for court security. The Court anticipates working with the Sheriff to implement the recommendation.